

# *White Pine School District*

10 Cedar St., P.O. Box 307  
White Pine, MI 49971

January 10, 2005

State Board of Education:

The following items are actions taken by the White Pine Board of Education in an effort to reduce expenditures to keep up with rising costs and decreasing revenues due to inadequate funding and declining enrollment.

- 1999—closing of swimming pool in the high school building due to maintenance costs
- 2000—consolidation of buildings from 1 elementary and 1 secondary building to a single K-12 building
- 2001—administrative reduction: one full time superintendent/principal to half-time superintendent and part-time head teacher
- 2002—staff reduction, elimination of head teacher position
- 2003—staff reduction—entire junior high and high school staff laid off as students in grades 7 through 12 are tuitioned from the White Pine School District to Ewen-Trout Creek Consolidated School District and Ontonagon Area School District  
--this also eliminated all extra-curricular activity costs (no more athletics, drama, Quiz Bowl, Rocketry Club, etc.)  
--remaining staff at White Pine School: 2 full time teachers, 3 part-time teachers, one full-time secretary/lunch server, one full time custodian/maintenance/bus driver, one part-time superintendent, one part-time administrative assistant/business manager  
--lunch provided by Ontonagon Area School District, eliminating head cook position
- 2004—staff reduction—elimination of full time custodian/maintenance person, sale of bus and bus garage
- last negotiated salary increase for professional or support staff: 2000 (1.5%)
- purchase of teaching supplies is done by staff members and by community donation

The residents of White Pine have demonstrated their desire to keep a school open in the community by supporting all millage votes, including a 3 mill bond issue in 2000 to renovate the existing high school building to accommodate elementary students. The people of Carp Lake Township and White Pine school alumni have hosted fund-raisers and supported the school through donations. Because of this community support, the White Pine Board of Education has done everything it can to cut costs and still keep the school in existence. As costs continue to rise and state funding remains uncertain, the White Pine school system has fewer areas to cut expenditures. Our next move will be to close the school.

Catherine R. Shamion, Superintendent